

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are rejected. Claims 1, 5 and 6 are objected to. Claims 1-6 are pending of which claim 1 is an independent claim.

The abstract, specification and claim 1 stand objected to due to several reoccurring informalities. In response, Applicants have been amended the abstract, written description and claim 1 to accurately reflect that the term “zero dispersion wavelength” should read “zero dispersion slope” as suggested by the office action. Support for these changes is found on page 5, line 8 of the written description. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the above-stated objections.

Claims 5 and 6 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants wish to thank the examiner for indicating that both claims would be allowable, however at this time elect not to modify those claims.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Furukawa (JP 2002-258092).

Applicants respectfully traverse the above stated rejection.

Claim 1, as currently amended recites, an optical fiber having *inter alia*, including a zero dispersion slope in the range of 0.046 to 0.079 ps/nm²·km.

In contract, the office action has cited applicant's own prior art reference, Furukawa (JP 2002-258092), submitted to the USPTO on February 18, 2005. The

present invention is an improvement on Furukawa. The characteristics of Furukawa' optical fiber and that disclosed in the first embodiment of the present invention in base claim 1 are different. The office action failed to see this distinguish due to an error in reading one element of base claim 1:

(Incorrect Form) as a zero dispersion wavelength greater than 0.07 ps/nm²·km

(Correct Form) a zero dispersion slope in the range of 0.046 to 0.079 ps/nm²·km

Furukawa discloses a zero dispersion slope of 0.08 ps/nm²·km in table 1 and in paragraph [0042]. That amount is outside of the range set forth in base claim 1. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the above-stated rejection of claim 1 as the reference fails to disclose every feature set forth in the base claim.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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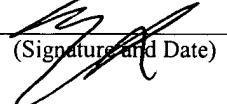
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